

Clinton toured the Church of the Nativity with Chairman Arafat and his wife, Shua.

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton participated in a Christmas tree lighting at the Church of the Nativity. Later, they traveled to Masada, where they toured the historic site.

In the late afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Tel Aviv. In the evening, they returned to Washington, DC.

#### **December 16**

In the morning, the President met with the national security team concerning the situation in Iraq.

In the afternoon, the President met with Representative Amo Houghton concerning the upcoming vote on the articles of impeachment.

The President announced his intention to appoint Anita Ray Arnold, Robert B. Barnett, Anita (Buffy) Cafritz, and Kenneth M. Duberstein to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

#### **December 17**

In the morning in the Oval Office, the President was briefed on the military operations in Iraq by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Henry H. Shelton, Defense Secretary William S. Cohen, and the national security team. Later in the day, the President had separate telephone conversations concerning the ongoing operations in Iraq with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu of Israel, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, King Hussein I of Jordan, and President Jacques Chirac of France, as well as Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, House Majority Leader Bob Livingston, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, Senate Minority Leader Thomas A. Daschle, and House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt.

The White House announced that the President released \$102.2 million of emergency supplemental funding included for the Army Corps of Engineers in the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, to carry out critical dredging activities and other repairs needed to maintain safe channels at navigation projects in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi,

Florida, and Puerto Rico that were damaged by Hurricane Georges and other tropical storms.

#### **December 18**

In the morning, the President met with Representative Christopher Shays.

In the afternoon, the President met with Chancellor Viktor Klima of Austria in his capacity as President of the European Council and President Jacques Santer of the European Commission in the Cabinet Room.

In the evening, the President met with members of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS in the Cabinet Room.

The President announced the recess appointment of William Clyburn, Jr., as a member of the Surface Transportation Board. Mr. Clyburn was nominated on September 2, 1997. The President intends to resubmit his nomination when the 106th Congress convenes.

The President announced the recess appointment of Albert S. Jacquez as Administrator of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation at the Department of Transportation. Mr. Jacquez was nominated to the Senate on September 29, 1998. The President intends to resubmit his nomination when the 106th Congress convenes.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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NOTE: The Congress having adjourned *sine die* on October 21, no nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

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### **Checklist of White House Press Releases**

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The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

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**Released December 12**

Transcript of remarks by Special Counsel Gregory Craig on the House Judiciary Committee vote on impeachment

**Released December 13**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and National Security Adviser Samuel Berger on the President's visit to the Middle East

**Released December 14**

Transcript of remarks by Vice President Al Gore on additional police officers and new technologies

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright on the President's visit to the Middle East

**Released December 15**

Transcript of remarks by Vice President Al Gore at the All-American Cities Awards presentation

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger on the President's visit to the Middle East

**Released December 16**

Transcript of remarks by Vice President Al Gore at the Business and Entrepreneurial Roundtable

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of remarks by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart announcing the President's address to the Nation on military strikes on Iraq

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Samuel Berger on military strikes on Iraq

**Released December 17**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Announcement of nomination for U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California

**Released December 18**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs Stuart Eizenstat and NSC Senior Director for European Affairs Don Bandler on the European Union-U.S. summit

Senior Level Group Report to the U.S.-EU Summit

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**

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NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.

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